

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The Examiner stated that restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

1. Claims 1-15, drawn to an electronic component mounting method
2. Claims 16-22 and 29-30 drawn to an electronic component mounting apparatus
3. Claims 23-28 drawn to an electronic component mounting data creating method, a mounting data-creating device, and a program for mounting an electronic component.

Applicant confirms its election to prosecute the invention directed to Group I (claims 1-15) without traverse. Applicant further notes that claims 16-30 have been cancelled.

The Examiner stated that Figures 29, 30(a), 30(b), 31(a), and 31(b) should be designated by a legend such as “Prior art” because Figures 29, 30(a), 30(b), 31(a), and 31(b) illustrate old technology. Applicant notes that Figures 29, 30(a), 30(b), 31(a), and 31(b) have been amended per the Examiner’s recommendation.

The Examiner objected to the drawings because in Figures 1, 23, and 24 the label “FEED-FOWARD” should be “FEED-FORWARD.” Applicant notes that Figures 1, 23, and 24 have been amended.

The Examiner objected to the abstract because the claimed invention is directed to the

electronic component mounting method. Applicant notes that the abstract has been amended.

In Item 12 of the Office action, the Examiner objected to the disclosure because of informalities. Applicant notes that the informalities have been corrected.

The Examiner stated that the title of the Invention is not descriptive. Applicant notes that the title has been amended. No new matter is introduced by the amendment.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. Applicant notes that claim 1 has been cancelled. Applicant further notes that allowable claims 5, 8, and 9 have been amended to overcome the Examiner's rejection of indefiniteness.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4 and 12-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsujikawa U.S. Pat. No. 5,555,316. Applicant notes that claims 1, 3, and 4 have been cancelled. Applicant further notes that claim 2 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 5 and is thus in condition for allowance. Applicant still further notes that claim 14 has been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 5 and all intervening claims and is thus in condition for allowance.

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sasaki JP Application No. 05-186,940. Applicant notes that claim 1 has been cancelled. Applicant further notes that claim 2 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 5.

The Examiner stated that claims 5-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant notes that claims 5, 8, and 9 have been amended

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Reply to Office action of July 2, 2004

to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph and have been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims and are thus in condition for allowance. Applicant further notes that claims 6 and 7 depend from allowable claim 5 and claims 10 and 11 depend from allowable claim 9 and are thus in condition for allowance.

Applicant still further notes that claims 12, 13 and 15 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 8 and are thus in condition for allowance.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34457.

Respectfully submitted,

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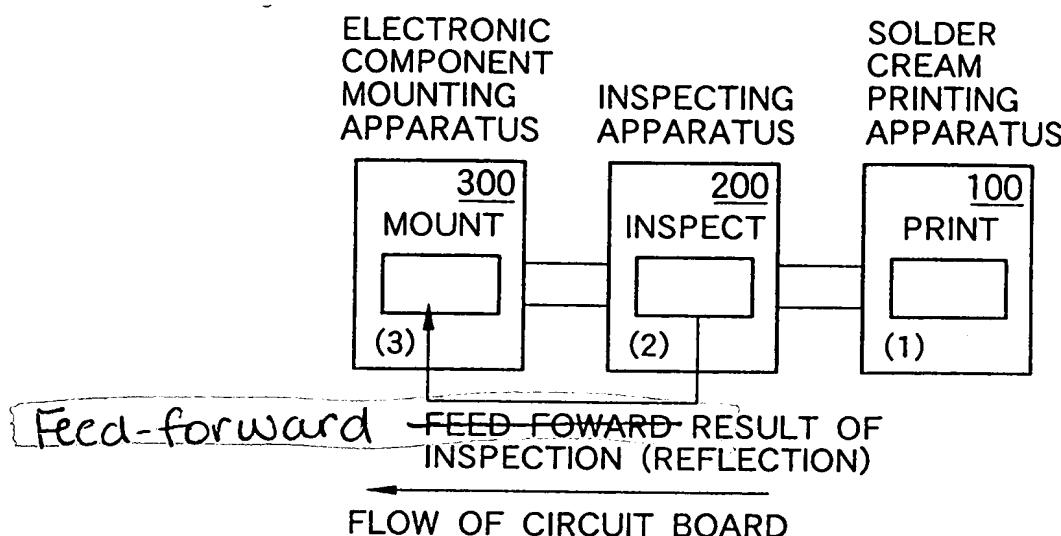
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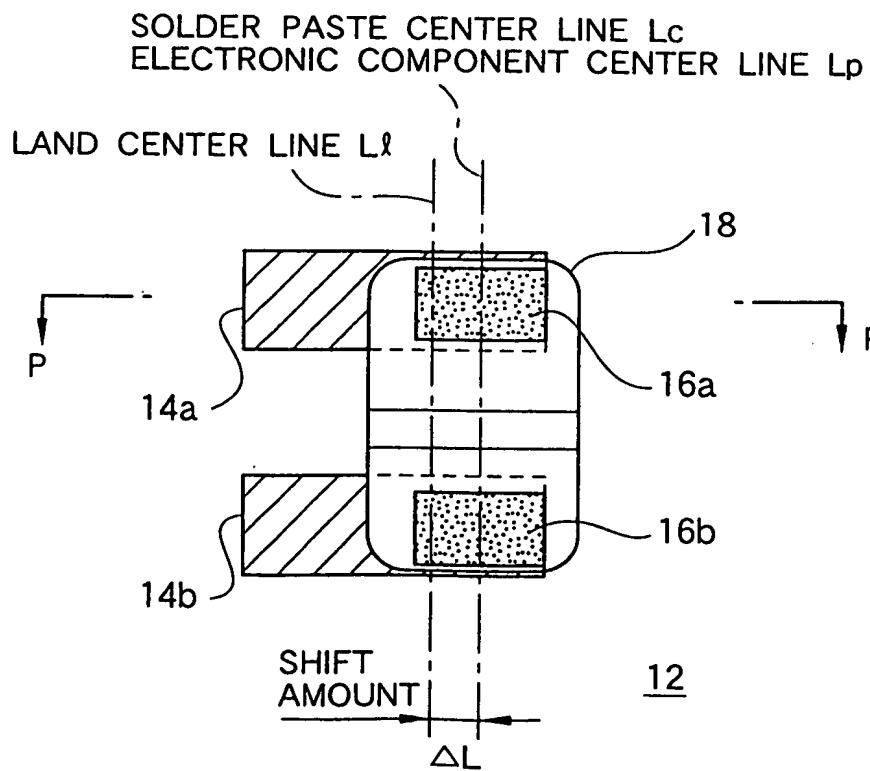
Annotated Sheet (Drawings)
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Sheet 1 of 4

FIG.1



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TECHNOLOGY CENTER (T.S.C.)

FIG.2



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FIG.22

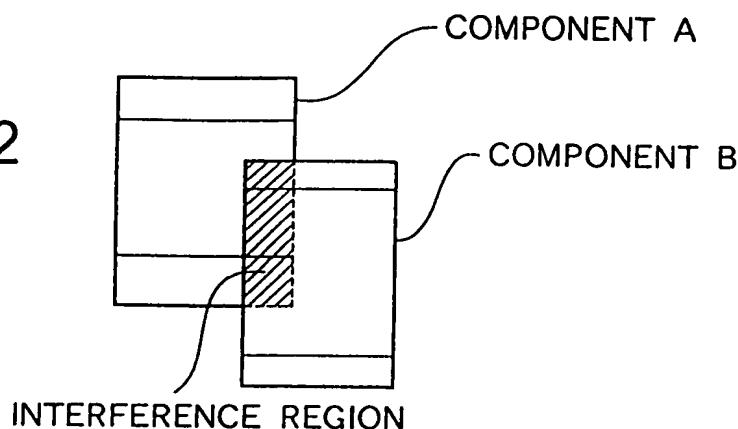


FIG.23

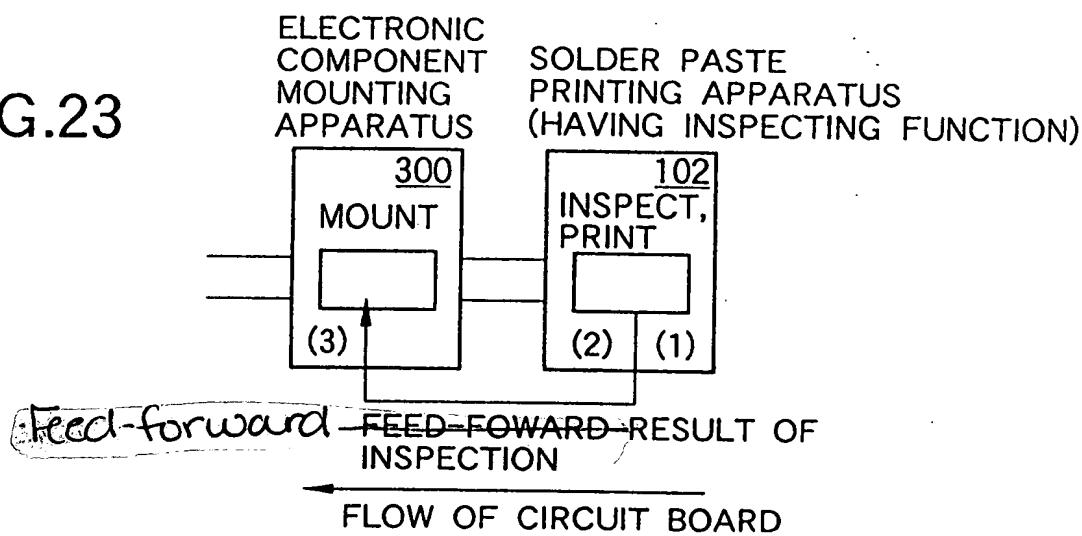
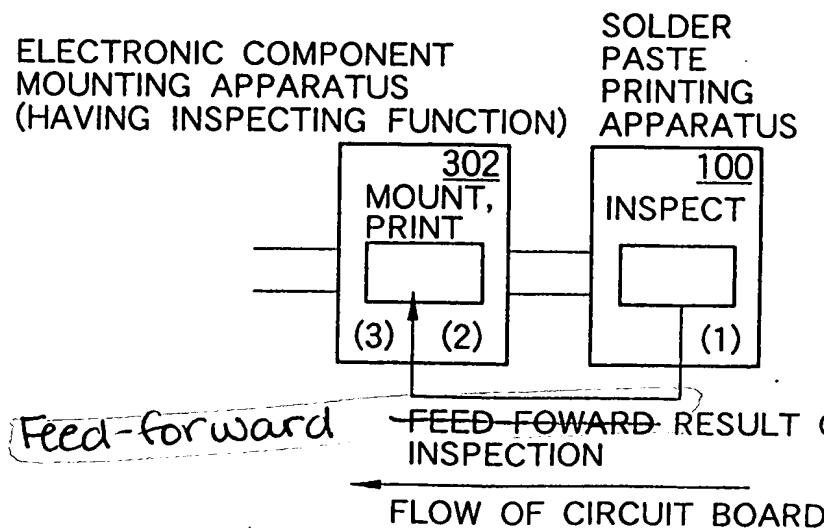
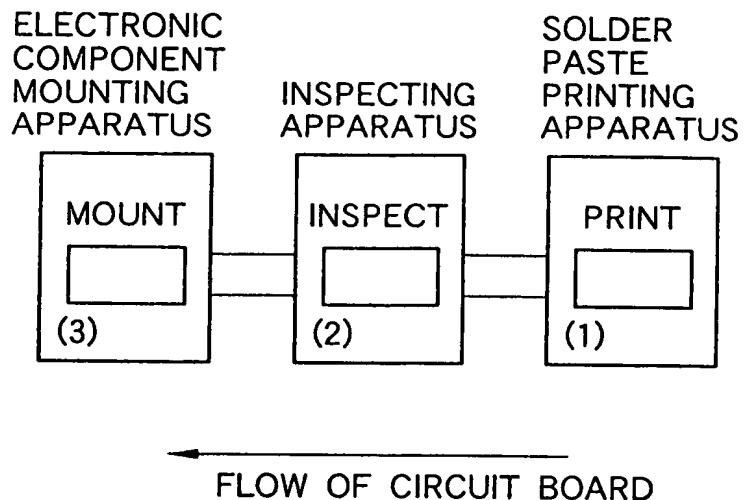


FIG.24



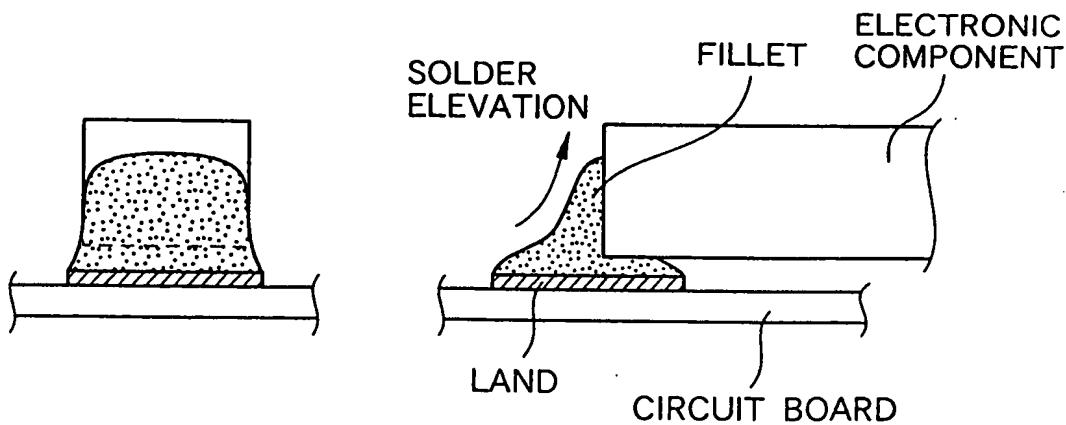
Prior Art

FIG.29

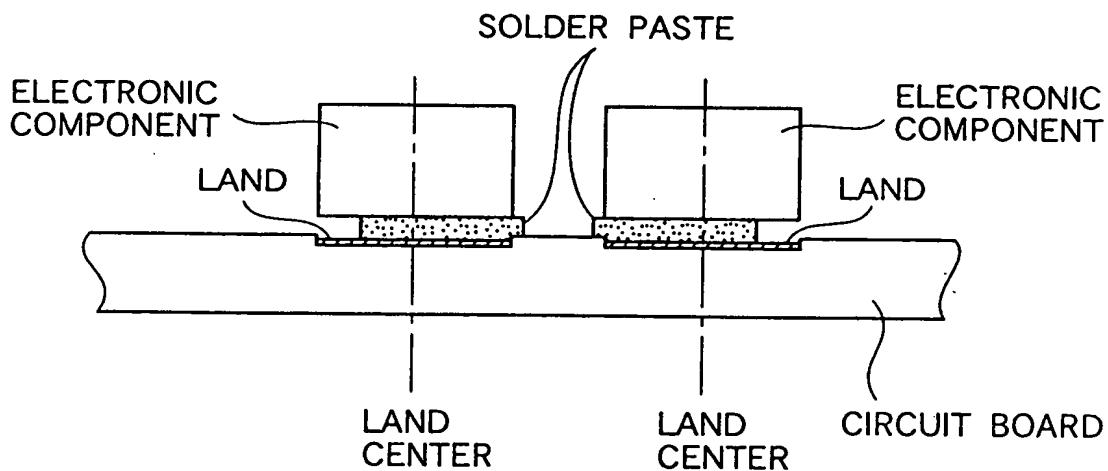


Prior Art
FIG.30(a)

Prior Art FIG.30(b)



Prior Art
FIG.31(a)



Prior Art
FIG.31(b)

